

United States Campaign
Summer 09



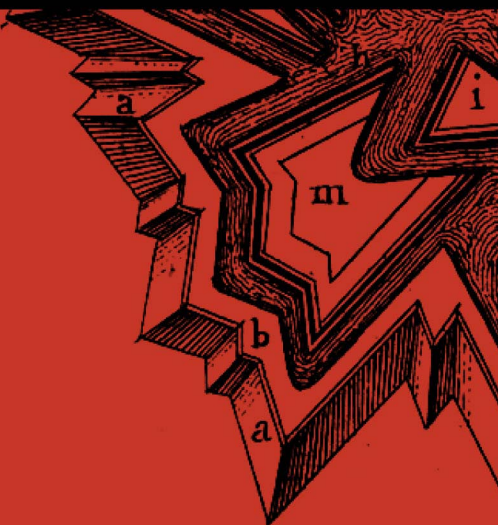
PARA BELLUM

TACTICAL ARCHITECTURE LANDSCAPE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, SIBLEY HALL, ROOM 144, 17:00 (5PM)

Professor Arthur Ovaska

AUSTIN + MORGOLD



Cornell University

European Campaign
Summer 09



PARABELLUM

A Tactical Architecture & Landscape

Fortifications: a Two-Thousand-Year-Old Responsive System



Aerial View of Maiden Castle, England, circa 400 BC

Program Summary

This summer, our destination is not geographic, but topo- and typo-logical – we will travel along east coast of the US and traverse Europe north to south in pursuit of a transformation in space and history of a particular type. The typology is Fortifications. it is neither building nor landscape, but a hybrid, shaped in response to thousands of years of war.

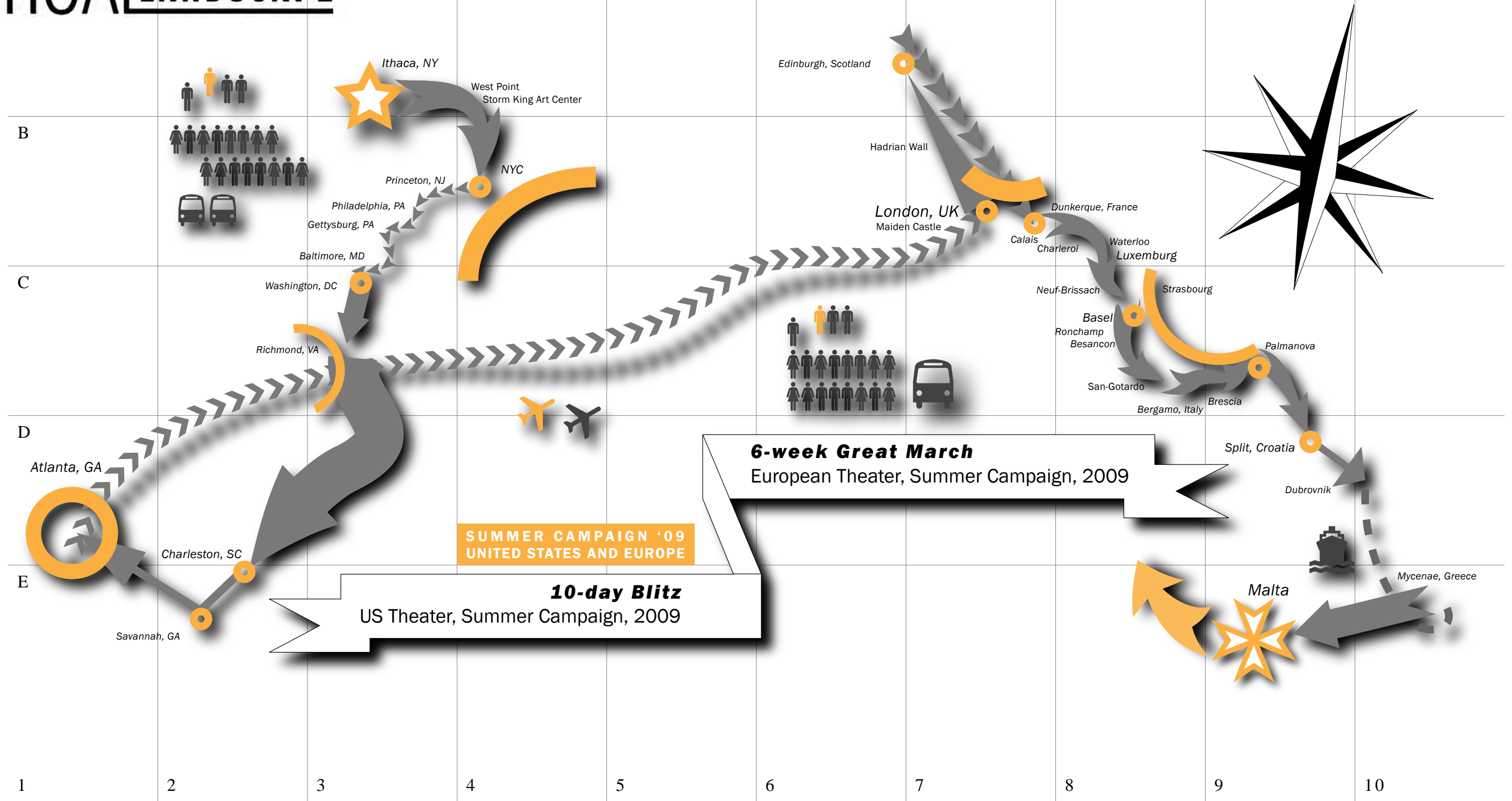
Since the beginning of time humans have continuously engaged in warfare, and collectively, our years of war outnumber those of peace. Ancient Romans had the dictum *si vis pacem, para bellum* – if [you] want peace, prepare of war, and the world seems to have operated on this principle to date. While the end results of such preparation are undoubtedly woeful and destructive, the built forms associated with it are fascinating feats of design: breathtaking attempts at mastery of nature (land, water, air) and human emotions (fear, pride, aggression, serenity). We will study the architectural responses to conflict; their continuing evolution and adaptation to new technology, tactics and politics; as well as their impact on the national, urban and individual scale in the built environment and landscape. We will also encounter built form that was either re-appropriated or created as consequences of military architecture. While architects no longer design for war, we have to reconcile with its aftermath through re-appropriation of killing fields for parks, the re-engagement of city centers choked by defensive rings, and the transformation of space formerly traversed by metal and fire into places of peaceful public interaction.

The program will begin by travelling down the East Coast of the US (an area that has been fortified against the “invasion by sea from the east and by land from the west”) to look at urban and rural examples of Fortress America and their effects on our built situation today. We will then continue on to Britain and study results of nearly 2000 years of military history expressed in buildings and landscape. Then, traveling along the French-German border (a continuous battlefield for over a thousand years), we will visit mediaeval castles, baroque garden-fortresses and WWII bunkers, in addition to post-bellum architecture such as Le Corbusier’s Notre Dame du Haut at Ronchamp. Next we will make our way into Switzerland and northern Italy to see some of the incredible natural defenses from the time of Napoleon and Garibaldi (area also featured in numerous James Bond movies and written about by Ernest Hemingway) as well as examples of modern architecture built in short spans of peacetime. Travelling down the fabulous Adriatic coast through several Croatian cities (including Dubrovnik – the ultimate walled city) we will observe traces of the Roman, Venetian, and Italian conquests as well as the recent civil war in the former Yugoslavia. After that we will stop in Greece to visit the famous last stand of the 300 Spartans and study the unique landscape of Thermopylae pass. And finally, finishing our Great March across Europe, we will arrive on the island of Malta: a fortified naval refuge of the Maltese order for the last 500 years that is now contending with its legacy of isolationism.

Design studios, accompanied by courses in theory, technology of architecture and landscape, and visual studies will be offered. Coffee & refreshments will be served.

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Itinerary

North America Part I		Europe Part II	
Start June 8		End July 31	
1.5 weeks		6.5 weeks	
West Point, NY & Storm King	The Military Academy & Maia Lin earthworks (Stopover on the way from Ithaca to NYC)	England & Scotland (begin in London)*	From Rome to WWII – the Tower, Royal War Museum, Hadrian’s Wall, Maiden Castle, the round table
Governors Island, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, NYC*	Defensive ring around NYC harbor, circa 1800’s	France, Belgium & Luxembourg* (Dunkerque and the border along the Rheine. Besancon, Neuf-Brissach)	Age of Vauban – Baroque fortified small town; WWII – the Maginot line & the Atlantic Wall; WWII aftermath – le Corbusier’s chapel in Ronchamp
Princeton, NJ	Revolutionary war battlefield – GW and the importance of site selection	Switzerland* (Basel, Lucerne – continue to Ticino via the San Gottard crossing)	The French Revolution and the Swiss natural defenses – passes & tunnels (San Gottard passage & the artillery hotel)
Gettysburg, PA	Civil War battlefield, earthworks; Neutra’s Panorama	Austria (TBD) (Vienna, Salzburg)	The recycled defensive ring; a cliff fortress
Baltimore, MA	Fort McHenry	Italy* (Como, Bergamo Brescia, Palmanova – continue to Croatia)	From Fascism to the Renaissance by way of the Bresaglieri and Ernest Hemingway
Washington, DC* Richmond, VA (TBD)	War of 1812 The Pentagon Defensible new city	Croatia* (The Adriatic coast - Zadar, Split, Korcula, Mostar, Dubrovnik)	From the Roman castle to baroque fort to the Serbo-Croat bombardments of the 1990’s
Charleston, SC*	“European import” 17 th century naval fortress	Greece* (TBD) (Thermopylae Mycenae – ferry/plane to Malta)	Mycenae, and the 300 Spartans Fortress
Savannah, GA	On the “wrong side” of the Civil War	Malta* <u>design charrette</u> & the end of program (ferries to Italy, France, Turkey)	The five hundred years of Maltese knights and the Island Fortress
Atlanta, GA* <u>design charrette</u>	Sherman’s burning (depart for London, UK)		

* at least 2 days spent at the location
 NB: exact locations & travel sequence to be verified

Courses

Architectural Design Studio

6 credits

Arch 3102 studio

Arch 4101/4102 studios

Arch 5101/5110 studio & thesis preparation

Coursework will consist of analytical drawings of sites visited produced in sketchbooks kept during the trip. There will also be 2 extended design exercises where students will propose their understanding of “defensible space” – one in Atlanta, the other in Malta

Special Topic in Theory of Architecture

Fortified Landscape

3 credits

Arch 3308 seminar

This theory seminar will have two primary objectives. First is to acquire familiarity and critically examine several historical examples of fortifications, studying the impact and influence of such structures on urban fabric and surrounding landscape. Second – speculate on the evolution of contemporary urban landscape, using the study of previous transformations of built fabric within and around fortifications as a model. We will be examining the historical need for physical distinction between interiority and exteriority and its place in the contemporary evolution of the city and landscape. Assigned readings will accompany field research and analysis. Final paper/project will be required.

Special Topic in Construction

Operational Walls

3 credits

Arch 4605 seminar

This technology seminar will focus on the evolution of the fortified wall and earthwork construction dating back several thousand years and its influence on current architecture & landscape production. The primary topics in this seminar will include utilizing the vernacular landscape as a source for construction materials; examining construction methodologies and phasing for the production of an earthwork and wall assembly; analyzing the relationship between form and functional operation; exploring the danger/safety nature of the double-sided programmed wall; and dissecting the logic of wall details. Coursework will require a series of analytical sketches, photographic documentation exercises and a final measured project.

Special Topic in Visual Representation

Mapping the 2009 Summer Campaign

3 credits

Arch 4509 seminar

This visual representation seminar will examine the evolution of graphic representation of war – through maps, painting, drawing, analog & digital photography, collage and other design strategies. We will look at examples in assigned readings, on site and in cultural institutions (such as the Royal War Museum in London). Students will be responsible for producing their own version of the documentation of this “blitz” down the Northeastern seaboard of the United States and of the 6-week “Great March” across Europe.

Notes

Students are expected to take no less than 15 credit hours. Three credit hours are recommended for variable credit hours. Third year students may attend off-campus summer programs by approved petition only. Third year students must register for Arch 3100 Elective Design, which cannot be applied to the third year design sequence (Arch 3101/3102). It may be applied to the fourth year design sequence upon successful completion of Arch 3101/3102. Only one Cornell foreign summer program can be counted for design sequence credit. Any credit earned at a subsequent Cornell foreign summer program will be applied as elective credit. Students may not repeat a semester of design off-campus during a summer session. Design courses taken at an off-campus summer program in such circumstances will be credited only as an elective and not for design sequence credit. For rules and regulations concerning Cornell foreign summer programs refer to the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning Student, Faculty, and Staff Handbook.

Mode of Transport

Bus / Minivans	- Ithaca, NY – Atlanta, GA
Airplane	- London, UK
Bus	- England / Scotland
Ferry	- to Dunkerque, France
Bus	- France – Croatia
Ferry	- to Greece (from Dubrovnik)
Ferry (airplane – alt.)	- to Malta (from Greece)

Student Expenses

Fixed:	
Tuition(15 credits)	14,550
Program Fee*	3,100

Variable:	
Airfare	1,200
Per diem (8 weeks)**	2,800

* program fee covers ground transportation, lodging, admission costs, etc.

** base on average of \$60 per day. Note that based on our itinerary, costs will vary (from very low to moderately high) with location and mode of travel.